

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 107324

FOR SIMONS FROM ANDREWS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN, RO

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL/INFORMAL

1. MARY BIRRER'S MOTHER DIED AND WILL BE BURIED THIS WEEK.
WE PASSED ON AMBASSADOR'S MESSAGE, BUT MARY PLANS TO RETURN
TO BUCHAREST ON PAN AM, ARRIVING THIS SUNDAY.

2. TAX FORMS. YOU SHOULD BY NOW HAVE D.C. INCOME TAX FORMS,
EVEN ALLOWING FOR SLOW POUCH. IT TOOK US SOME TIME TO
ROUND UP A COPY OF THE INSTRUCTION BOOK, BUT WHOLE KIT WAS
MAILED ABOUT THREE WEEKS AGO, ACCORDING TO OUR RECOLLECT-
ION. ADVISE.

3. WE ARE STILL TRYING TO LOCATE AMBASSADOR'S ROBE AND
PAJAMAS AT PARK CENTRAL AND WILL SEND WITH EXIM GROUP IF
SUCCESSFUL.

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4. FROM THE RECENT REPRESENTATION LIST, I NOTICED THAT
THERE ARE MANY CASES IN WHICH PEOPLE CANNOT EVEN GET PAST
THE PRELIMINARY APPLICATION FORMS FOR PASSPORT APPLICATION.
IT SEEMS TO ME THIS IS A WORSE PROBLEM THAN IT WAS. DES-
PITE THE RELATIVE SUCCESS OF "PASSPORT DISSIDENTS", I SUS-
PECT MUCH MORE WILL BE MADE AT THE FORTHCOMING HEARINGS OF
THE INABILITY EVEN TO OBTAIN PASSPORT APPLICATION FORMS

BECAUSE OF BEING TURNED DOWN ON THE BASIS OF THE PRELIMINARY FORM. THE PERCENT OF SUCCESS IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1977 WAS MORE THAN TWICE AS HIGH AS IN THE LAST HALF OF 1977 (PARA 17 BUCHAREST 0118) AND SUGGESTS THAT THE DIMENSION OF THE PROBLEM IS GROWING RATHER THAN DECREASING. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY THOUGHTS YOU MAY HAVE OF DEALING WITH THIS.

5. DANA IS ARRIVING IN BUCHAREST APRIL 27 VIA PANAM AND I FULLY EXPECT SHE WILL BE MET. SHE WILL WANT TO SEE YOU AND PEGGY SOON.

6. AFTER BUCHAREST 0250, WE HAVE HEARD NOTHING MORE ABOUT SPECIFIC RESTRICTIONS ON MOVEMENTS OF ROMANIAN CITIZENS. CAN YOU CONFIRM YOUR ASSUMPTION IN THE COMMENT OF THAT CABLE THAT A SIMILAR SYSTEM APPLIES TO MOVES BETWEEN DIFFERENT COUNTIES? IN OTHER WORDS, IS THIS A COUNTRY-WIDE PHENOMENON?

7. METHADONE. WE HAVE BEEN ASKED BY AN ORGANIZATION THAT COUNSELS FORMER DRUG ADDICTS WHETHER IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR A FORMER HEROIN ADDICT WHO IS BEING TREATED WITH METHADONE TO CONTINUE THAT TREATMENT IN ROMANIA. SPECIFICALLY: (1) CAN METHADONE BE BROUGHT IN THROUGH CUSTOMS? HOW MUCH? WHAT DOCUMENTS ARE NEEDED?; (2) CAN METHADONE

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TREATMENT (AND THE DRUG ITSELF) BE OBTAINED IN ROMANIA? IF SO, WHERE AND HOW?

8. CIVAIR NEGOTIATIONS. THE TALKS HAVE DRAGGED ON LONGER THAN ANTICIPATED OR WARRANTED BY THE ISSUES INVOLVED. THERE IS TO BE ANOTHER SESSION LATE THIS AFTERNOON (APRIL 26), BY WHICH TIME THE ROMANIANS MAY HAVE RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS FROM BUCHAREST AUTHORIZING THEM TO SIGN CURRENT DRAFT. THE MAJOR STUMBLING BLOCKS HAVE BEEN LANGUAGE ON CHARTER FLIGHTS -- WHICH APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN WORKED OUT -- AND DECREE 81, ON WHICH OUR DELEGATION HAS PUSHED FOR WRITTEN CONFIRMATION THAT PANAM CAN CONTINUE TO USE ODCD RATHER THAN ARGUS. (WE ARE NOW HOPING TO SETTLE FOR A LETTER FROM THE U.S. DELEGATION CHAIRMAN TO NICOLAE SETTING OUT UNILATERALLY OUR VIEW OF DECREE 81'S NON-APPLICABILITY TO PANAM, WITH THE EXPLICIT THREAT THAT IF STATUS SHOULD CHANGE U.S. WOULD HAVE TO RECONSIDER ENTIRE CIVAIR PACKAGE. NICOLAE HAS SUGGESTED THAT BUCHAREST MIGHT NOT EVEN LET HIM ACCEPT SUCH A LETTER.) THERE IS ALSO A PROCEDURAL PROBLEM WHICH HAS CONSUMED MUCH TIME. NICOLAE HAS BEEN UNWILLING TO SIGN EVEN AN AD REFERENDUM MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WHICH INVOLVES AMENDMENT OF

THE 1973 AGREEMENT, ARGUING THAT HE HAS AUTHORITY TO
SUPPLEMENT THAT AGREEMENT BUT NOT TO AMEND IT, WHICH

WOULD REQUIRE ASSEMBLY APPROVAL. WE HAVE TRIED TO CON-
VINCE HIM THAT NOTHING IN THE AGREED MEMORANDUM IS BINDING
UNTIL BOTH GOVERNMENTS APPROVE THE AD REFERENDUM DOCUMENT
AND THERE IS EXCHANGE OF NOTES. TO PANAM'S GREAT REGRET,
WE HAVE DROPPED MANDATORY GSA -- NOT AS A RESULT OF ROMAN-
IAN RESISTANCE BUT BECAUSE CAB IS STRONGLY OPPOSED TO
SUCH "ANTI-COMPETITIVE PRACTICES". ROMANIANS HAD ASKED
FOR EAST BERLIN AS INTERMEDIATE POINT AND CUBA AS ONWARD
POINT FOR TAROM FLIGHTS, BUT THESE WERE TURNED DOWN FOR
POLITICAL REASONS, WITHOUT MUCH FUSS BY ROMANIANS. ABOVE
IS RATHER SKETCHY ACCOUNT WHICH WE HOPE WILL BE SUPPLE-
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MENTED BY EB CABLE, BUT DON'T HOLD YOUR BREATH. (WE'LL
LET YOU KNOW O/I IF SIGNATURE TAKES PLACE OR NOT.)

9. AGRICULTURE WORKING GROUP MEETING. SAM ATTENDED TODAY'S
SIGNING OF THE MINUTES ON THE AGRICULTURAL WORKING GROUP,
WHICH MET HERE APRIL 24-26. WE HAVE URGED AGRICULTURE TO
DO BRIEF SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS, AND WE ARE POUCHING TODAY
A COPY OF THE AGREED MINUTES. ROMANIANS PROVIDED SOME BUT
NOT ALL OF THE DATA WHICH THEY HAD EARLIER PROMISED UNDER
AGREEMENT, AND U.S. SIDE PROPOSED ADDITIONAL DATA EXCHANGE
WHICH ROMANIANS SAID THEY WOULD CONSIDER AND REPLY TO WITH-
IN 90 DAYS. ROMANIANS REQUESTED CCC FINANCING FOR AN
ADDITIONAL 150,000 - 200,000 MT SOYBEANS AND U.S. SIDE
SAID ANSWER WILL DEPEND ON FY 79 AVAILABILITY. GOR ALSO
EXPRESSED INTEREST IN CCC LINE FOR IMPORT OF BREEDING LIVE-
STOCK. MINUTES ALSO REFER TO DISCUSSION ON "LONG-TERM
PROGRAM OF DEVELOPING ROMANIA'S PORK PRODUCTION...BASED ON
SUPPLY OF U.S. FEEDS AND BREEDING STOCK AND U.S. AGREEMENT
TO IMPORT ROMANIAN PORK PRODUCTS." (THIS HAD BEEN MENTION-
ED TO BERGLAND BY CEAUSESCU.) THERE WAS ALSO BRIEF DIS-
CUSSION OF SCHEDULE FOR BERGLAND TRIP, WHICH WE WILL REPORT
OPEN CHANNEL.

10. FROM DARRYL JOHNSON: WHILE I WOULD ENJOY THE PROSPECT
OF VISITING PEGGY FOR A WEEKEND, I THINK IT ADVISABLE TO
GO DIRECTLY TO BELGRADE. PANAM HAS ALSO CONSPIRED TO MAKE
THAT MORE CONVENIENT. SO I'LL PLAN TO COME TO BUCHAREST
NEXT TIME WHICH SHOULD BE WITHIN A FEW MONTHS. ANY CHANCE
YOU COULD COME VIA BELGRADE EN ROUTE BACK FROM GARMISCH?
I'LL BE THERE MAY 6-9.

11. P.S. ON CIVAIR TALKS. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
SIGNED TODAY, COPY BEING POUCHED TO SANDERS.
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IZ. SCHMIDT TRAVEL. CARL IS HAPPY TO ACCEPT YOUR INVITATION TO STAY WITH YOU AND PEGGY. SOME JOINT PROGRAMMING WITH THE EXIM TEAM -- BUT NOT TOO MUCH -- WOULD BE FINE.

13. TRADE AGREEMENT RENEWAL/MTN RECIPROCITY. REF STATE 102880, IT WOULD BE VERY USEFUL TO HAVE SOME RESPONSE ASAP SO THAT ANY ROMANIAN ASSURANCES CAN BE CRANKED INTO PAPERS WE AND EB ARE NOW PREPARING FOR WHITE HOUSE ON MFN WAIVER/TRADE AGREEMENT RENEWAL. VANCE

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